



There are many other turkey products that have been developed so that we can enjoy turkey all year long.

At Thanksgiving we usually enjoy cooking a whole turkey. However, not all of the turkey is consumed on Thanksgiving. There are many other turkey products that have been developed. The next time you are in the grocery store, look at the wide variety of turkey products that are available. In the meantime, Happy Thanksgiving!

Think about the story that you have just read and put the following five sentences in the proper order, using the numbers; 1,2,3,4,5.

_____Poults grow into big turkeys on the farm.

_____A variety of turkey meat items can be purchased in grocery stores.

_____Hatching eggs are produced on breeder farms.

_____The grown turkeys are prepared for eating at the processing plant.

_____Eggs are hatched in incubators at the hatchery.

Turkey Trivia

The turkey is truly an all-American bird. It is native to North America. Early explorers found turkeys here and took some back to Europe. Wild turkeys are dark bronze in color, but their feathers are so glossy that when they are in bright sun they appear to have other colors in them.

Nearly all turkeys that are raised on Missouri farms are white in color.

Wild turkeys are still a common game bird in Missouri. There are turkey hunting seasons over nearly the entire state.

Wild turkeys can fly, but not for long distances. They do not migrate. White farm turkeys cannot fly. They are too big.

Turkeys do not have teeth. They grind their food in their gizzard. This muscular organ is near the turkey's stomach. The turkey will consume small stones that will stay in the gizzard. Food grains are then ground against the stones.

Tom turkeys have a beard. However, their beard is not on the chin. It is in the middle of their chest (breast) and is made of stiff hair.

Turkeys have no feathers on their heads. The skin on the head is usually red. However turkeys can change the colors from red to blue by changing blood flow under the skin.

Tom turkeys strut to show off for the hens. This is when he fans out his tail feathers and lowers his wings. The rest of the time, his tail is folded behind him.

Turkey eggs are cream colored with brown speckles. They are about twice as large as typical chicken eggs.

Benjamin Franklin wanted our national symbol to be the turkey instead of the bald eagle. He felt that the wild turkey was smarter and nobler than the eagle! Can you imagine how different things would be if the turkey had been selected!



Where's the Teeth????



1st runner up